

## Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



~~2~~  
1  
7g 84 M

U.S.  
N



# **CAREERS** **in** **SOIL** **CONSERVATION** **SERVICE**

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION NO. 717



## Make Soil and Water Conservation Your Career

- Enroll in the Nation's dynamic action program to protect and improve our soil and water resources.
- Dedicate your training, abilities, and enthusiasm to work that is vital to the welfare of all Americans.
- Help solve the basic conservation problems of the Nation's privately owned land, urban and rural.
- Enjoy the satisfaction that comes from public service in a great cause along with the opportunity for personal advancement.

BE A PROFESSIONAL CONSERVATIONIST  
IN THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

#1999382

*Soil Conservation Service needs*  
CAREER PERSONNEL  
Trained in

Soil Conservation • Range Conservation  
Engineering • Agronomy  
Soils • Biology  
Economics • Geology  
Forestry • and related sciences

*Soil Conservation Service offers*

- Creative, challenging outdoor work.
- On-the-job training by recognized authorities in the science of soil and water conservation.
- A promotion-from-within policy that insures opportunity for advancement.
- The advantages of Federal civil service employment.
- Opportunity to gain broad experience in all phases of soil and water conservation or to specialize in one technical field.

# What the Soil Conservation Service Does

The Soil Conservation Service is the Department of Agriculture's technical arm of action for soil and water conservation. Basic jobs of SCS are:

- A national soil and water conservation program through soil conservation districts organized under State law and controlled by farmers and ranchers.
- Watershed protection and flood prevention.
- The national cooperative soil survey.
- Flood-damage reduction in 11 major watersheds.
- Snow surveys for water-supply forecasting in the West.
- Administrative leadership of the Great Plains conservation program.
- Resource conservation and development projects.

KAN-1518





NEB-2111

## Soil Conservationist

Helps local people in rural and rural-fringe areas prepare conservation development plans for communities and individual operating units to meet local needs. Gives onsite technical assistance in carrying out planned conservation improvements.

**Qualifications.**—A college degree with major study in soil conservation or a closely related natural resource or agricultural field. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.

## Range Conservationist

Helps ranchers and other range users to determine the potential of their land for producing forage from native plant communities for livestock, wildlife, and recreation and to prepare conservation plans to improve the condition of their range. Gives onsite technical assistance in range inventories, proper forage utilization, reseeding, brush control, water development, systems of grazing, and ecosystem management.

**Qualifications.**—College degree with major study in range management or range conservation. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.





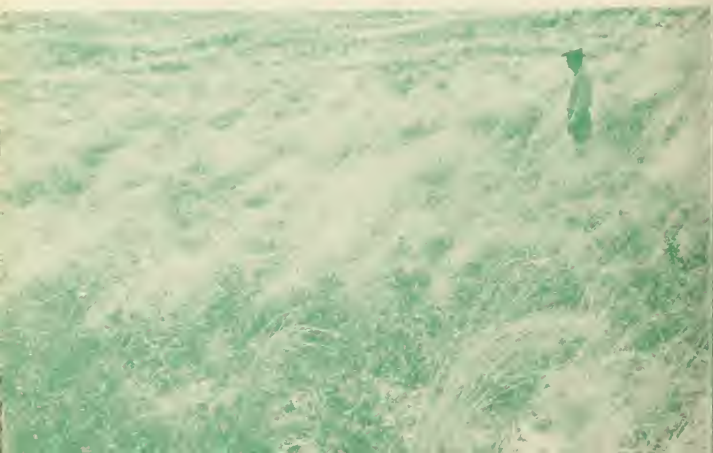
MONT-320

## Soil Scientist

Collects information about the soil through examination and records the information on maps and as field notes, which are published later. Presents the information for use by farmers and ranchers, urban planners, and technical specialists in other fields.

Qualifications.—A college degree with major study in soil science or a closely related field of study. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.

TEX-49,886





# Engineer

Plans, designs, and supervises construction of: earth fill and reinforced-concrete dams for flood prevention, water supply, wildlife, and water-based recreation; stream-bank-protection and channel-stabilization work; chutes, drops, spillways, diversions, waterways, and terraces for erosion control and water conservation; and irrigation and drainage systems. Makes hydrologic studies and prepares soil mechanics reports on foundation and earth embankment materials.

Qualifications.—College degree in engineering with major emphasis on hydraulics, hydrology, structural design, drainage, or irrigation.

TEX-49,881



W VA-122





CAL-6921

## Plant Materials Specialist

Brings together plants from many sources for conservation uses. Tests and evaluates these plants to determine adaptation, erosion control, and soil improving values. Determines the cultural requirements and the management practices necessary for success. Increases and field tests selected plants for such specialized uses as pond margins, ground cover, forage, sand dunes, wind barriers, wildlife food and shelter, and turfs and screens on land used for recreation.

Qualifications.—A college degree with a major in agronomy, range conservation, or other plant science.

## Agronomist

Provides technical guidance on agronomic problems to SCS employees, and to land owners and operators who are carrying out soil and water conservation programs. Interprets soil and crop experimental data for field use of SCS personnel and land owners and operators who are planning and applying conservation plans. Conducts field trials to evaluate adaptability and handling of grasses and legumes useful in soil and water conservation. Determines methods of establishing herbaceous vegetation for soil and water conservation purposes.

Qualifications.—A college degree with major study in agronomy or a closely related field. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.



NJ-40,457

## Biologist

Provides guidance and training to SCS employees in biological principles and practices that make cropland, grazing land, woodland, and farm or ranch water more productive of fish and wildlife. Develops biological practices and standards, converts new knowledge into technical recommendations, and assembles and makes available other information relating to fish and wildlife for the use of SCS employees and land owners and operators.

**Qualifications.**—A college degree with at least 30 semester hours in biological science. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.

## Woodland Conservationist

Gives technical guidance, training, and other assistance in woodland conservation to SCS employees and soil and water conservation district cooperators. Develops specifications for woodland practices in collaboration with forestry agencies. SCS employees use this information in providing assistance to land users in conserving their woodlands as part of coordinated soil and water conservation programs. Interprets forestry techniques and experimental data for field use. Helps to evaluate soil-tree relationships and determine woodland conservation practices in relation to specific soil or site conditions.

**Qualifications.**—A college degree with major study in forestry. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.



TEX-47,898

## Geologist

Investigates and interprets surface and subsurface conditions in relation to: planning, designing, and constructing engineering structures; ground water—supply, management, and recharge; sediment—yield, sources, damage, and control.

Qualifications.—A college degree with major in geology. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.

## Economist

Participates in planning watersheds, river basins, and resource conservation and development areas. Estimates benefits, allocates costs, and determines economic justification of plans for flood prevention, irrigation, drainage, municipal and industrial water supply, recreation, and other types of resource development projects. Collects and analyzes data on economic growth indicators and uses economic projections in evaluating water and related land resource planning. Collects cost-and-return data for conservation measures.

Qualifications.—A college degree with major study in economics. Specified courses are listed in the examination announcement.





IDA-25 174

## Conservation Technician

Helps professional conservationists prepare conservation farm plans. Helps land users establish measures called for in conservation plans.

Qualifications.—Experience in conservation farming. Farm or ranch background required for most positions.

## Engineering Technician

Helps engineers with surveys, plotting notes, engineering computations, drafting, layout work in the field, and inspection of construction operations.

Qualifications.—Experience on survey crews running levels and transits; work on construction, layout, and inspection.

FLA-D-13-11



# Employment Facts

*Information.*—Ask your college placement officer or postmaster, or write to the nearest Soil Conservation Service office for information on SCS positions in which you are interested.

*How to apply.*—If you have the right qualifications, fill out the application (Form 171) carefully, and mail it as directed in the examination announcement.

*Equal employment opportunity.*—Applicants will be considered without regard to race, sex, creed, color, national origin, politics, marital status, age, membership or nonmembership in an employee organization, or any other nonmerit factor.

*Work locations.*—You may work at any one of several thousand locations in the United States or at some location in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Your college placement officer will have a list of the offices of SCS where you can get additional information.

*Training.*—SCS provides excellent opportunities for intensive and specialized training under competent, experienced technical men, both on the job and in group training centers.

*Advancement.*—SCS has an organized promotion-from-within policy. There is continuous flow upward through the ranks.

*Benefits.*—SCS employees are under Federal civil service. Advancement is based wholly on merit. They are eligible for many benefits, such as sick and annual leave, periodic salary increases, group life and health insurance at a nominal rate, disability compensation if injured in line of duty, and liberal retirement annuities.

Revised May 1971  
Slightly revised December 1975

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1975—O-595-008

---

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing  
Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 25 cents  
Stock Number 001-000-03497-9  
Catalog Number A 1.38:717/5





